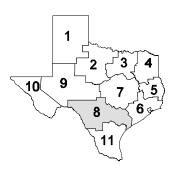
### Publicly-Funded HIV Prevention Counseling and Testing in Region 8: 1997

#### Highlights

- ♦ The number of HIV testing conducted through publiclyfunded sites in 1997 was 10% lower than reported in 1996, but the number of *positive* HIV tests reported was 37% lower than reported in 1996. This translates to a positivity rate change from 1.3 positives per 100 tests to 0.9 per 100 tests.
- ♦ As in 1996, Hispanic men and women had the highest proportion of *positive* tests (67%).
- ♦ The age group with the largest share of *positives* was between 30 and 39 years old (40%).
- In men, most *positive* tests were found in individuals who reported sex with other men (57%), while in women, the majority of *positive* tests were in the risky heterosexual sex category (71%).



**Introduction.** Over 640,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) as of December 1997, and over 390,000 people have died of HIV infection in the U.S. since the beginning of the epidemic. Over 18,000 Texas residents are currently living with AIDS. Texas continues to rank fourth in the number of AIDS cases reported each year. In 1997, 4,718 AIDS cases were reported in Texas, for an annual rate of 24.3 cases per 100,000 Texas residents.

While these numbers tell us how many people have AIDS and estimate how many people are currently living with HIV/AIDS, they tell us very little about these individuals and how they acquired HIV. Since the spread of HIV/AIDS is usually linked to an individual's behavior through unprotected sex or injecting drug use, information on behavior is necessary in order for us to plan and develop effective prevention activities. Detailed behavioral and demographic information on individual clients has been gathered in HIV test counseling sessions at publicly funded counseling and testing sites since 1989. The Counseling and Testing System (CTS) data are very useful for understanding who is seeking testing and prevention counseling for HIV/AIDS.

This report is intended to provide you with information about clients who tested in 1997. We have organized this report to 1) highlight general demographic information on at-risk populations in Texas and provide information about the intensity of the epidemic across PHR 8, and 2) to provide detailed information about clients, grouped by their risk behaviors.

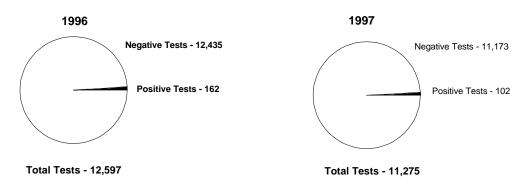
This is an overview of the HIV tests performed at CTS sites with test dates in 1997. These tests are primarily public sector tests, which means that not all HIV tests done in the state are reported here nor are all public sector tests reported. It has been estimated that 40-50% of HIV tests are performed in the public sector. These figures represent tests, not individuals. There may be duplicate tests for individuals, but we have removed those tests on individuals who have reported previously testing positive.

#### A Note about Mode of Exposure

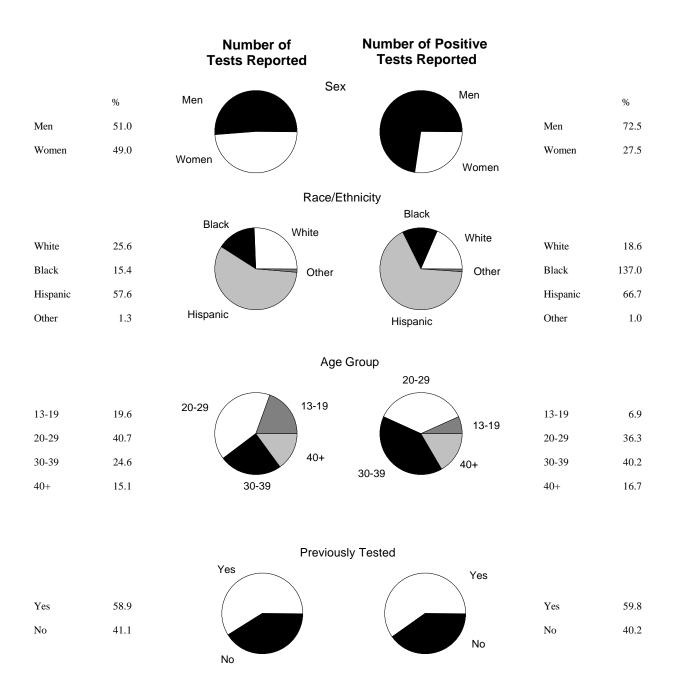
Mode of exposure is a way of dividing risk behaviors based on the likelihood of transmitting HIV while engaging in that behavior. During HIV counseling sessions, clients discuss the kinds of risk behaviors they have engaged in *since* 1978. The counselor, following the session, marks all appropriate risk behaviors for that client on a CTS reporting

form. We have collapsed the 14 risky behavior categories on the form into six mode of exposure categories. Because many clients report more than one risk behavior, clients fall into a mode of exposure based on the riskiness of the behaviors reported. The following mode of exposure categories are listed in order of risk of transmission of HIV, beginning with the riskiest behavior. These modes are: Men who have had sex with other men and also use injecting drugs (M/MS/IDU), men who have sex with other men (M/MS), injecting drug user (IDU), risky heterosexual behavior (sex while using non-injection drugs, sex in exchange for drugs or money, a previous STD diagnosis, and sex partner at risk for HIV/AIDS) (F/MS), other exposures not identified above (*Other*), tests on individuals who do not disclose any risky behavior, but still want to be tested (NIR - no indicated risk).

#### General Information on 1996 and 1997 Tests



- The total number of tests reported in CTS in 1997 was 10% lower than the number reported in 1996.
- The number of *positive* tests reported in CTS in 1997 were 37% less than reported in 1996.
- Positivity rates decreased from 1.3 *positives* per 100 tests in 1996 to 0.9 *positives* per 100 tests in 1997.
- In PHR 8, 3,937 anonymous tests were performed, accounting for 35% of all tests in 1997. Women accounted for 48% of the anonymous tests in region 8.
- Only F/MS and "Other risk" groups had a proportion of anonymous tests less than 40% of the tests performed in their respective modes.
- For men, most tests were performed at STD and CTS sites, 35% and 28% respectively. Most *positive* tests were reported through CTS sites, with 46% of the positive tests.
- In women, most tests were performed at STD clinics and CTS sites, with 27% of the tests, each. Most positives were reported in CTS sites, 36%.
- Further information on anonymous testing patterns and sites of testing will be released in a separate report.



## Profile of Testers: Number of Tests and Number of Positive Tests by Demographics and Testing History

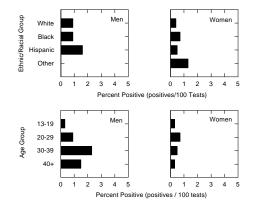
- Women accounted for just under half of the tests performed, while men accounted for 72% of the *positive* tests reported in PHR8 in 1997.
- Hispanics comprised nearly 58% of the CTS HIV tests in 1997, across men and women, and had the highest proportion of *positive* tests, 67%.
- The 20 to 29 year old age group had the largest proportion of tests in both men and women.
- The 20 to 29 and 30 to 39 year old age groups had the largest proportion of *positive* tests in men and women.
- Nearly 60% of the tests performed in 1997 were done for individuals had previously tested, and over 60% of the *positive* tests were performed for individuals who previously tested.

Detailed information about the number of tests and the number of positive tests can be found in the tables in the Appendix.

#### **Rates of Positivity by Demographics**

- The highest positivity rate was seen in Hispanic men, with an average of 1.6 *positive* tests per 100 tests performed.
- As in 1996, women overall had lower positivity rates than men (0.5 positive tests per 100 tests for women, 1.3 per 100 tests for men).
- In men, positivity rates were lower in 1997 (1.3 per 100 tests) than in 1996 (2.3 per 100 tests) regardless of age or ethnicity.
- As in 1996, the 30 to 39 year old age group had the highest positivity rate in men, but in women it switched from the 30 to 39 age group to the 20 to 29 year old age group.

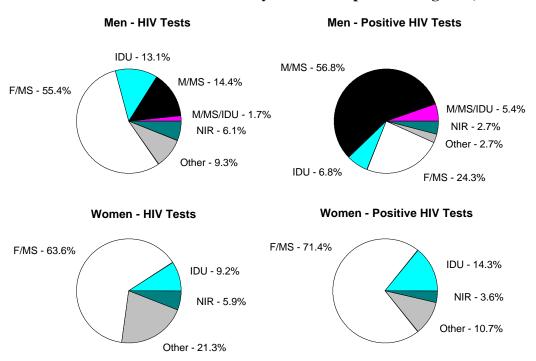
# Rates of Positive CTS Tests per 100 Tests Performed by Race/Ethnicity and Age: Region 8, 1997



#### Profile of Individuals Testing and Testing Positive: Mode of Exposure to HIV

- The M/MS mode of exposure accounted for 14% of the tests performed for men, but accounted for over 57% of the *positive* tests reported in men.
- The M/MS/IDU mode also had a larger share of *positive* tests than total tests.
- The F/MS mode of exposure had the largest proportion of tests (55%), but less than one-quarter of the *positive* tests in men.
- In women, the F/MS mode reported the largest proportion of tests and positive tests in 1997.
- Women who reported injecting drug use had a larger proportion of *positive* tests (14%) than total tests (9%), while in the *Other* mode of exposure, there was a smaller proportion of *positive* tests compared to total tests.
- There are far too many tests performed for women who are classified in the "Other" risk category. This may indicate that prevention counselors need to gain a better rapport between themselves and their client's to gain a better understanding of the client's risks for effective risk reduction plan development. Recent analysis has indicated that first time testers may not be aware of all of their risks for HIV and therefore may not be able to initiate communication about risks with their counselors.

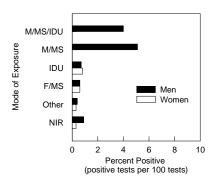
#### CTS HIV Tests and Positive Tests by Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997



#### Rates of Positivity by Mode of Exposure

- The M/MS and M/MS/IDU modes of exposure had the highest rates of positivity observed in 1997 (5.1 and 4.0 positives per 100 tests, respectively).
- IDU had the highest positivity rate in women (0.8 positives per 100 tests).
- Positivity rates were similar between men and women in the F/MS mode, 0.6 positives per 100 tests.
- In the Other and NIR modes, men had a higher positivity rate than women, suggesting that men were less likely than women to report behaviors which fell into traditional risk categories.

#### Rates of Positive CTS Tests per 100 Tests by Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997



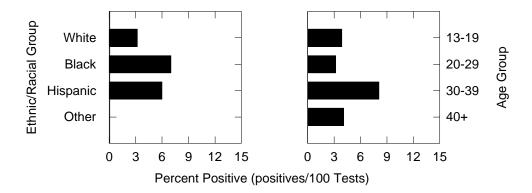
## **Detailed Information by Mode of Exposure**

#### Male with Male Sex (M/MS) Mode of Exposure

- Over 58% of the men tested in this mode of exposure were Hispanic, and had over 69% of the *positive* tests in the M/MS mode.
- In contrast, Blacks had only 7% of the tests in 1997, but nearly 10% of the *positive* tests in this mode.
- Whites had nearly 34% of the tests and 21% of the *positive* tests in 1997 in the M/MS mode.
- African Americans had the highest positivity rate in the M/MS mode, 7.0 positives per 100 tests, followed closely by Hispanics at 6 positives per 100 tests.
- The 30 to 39 year old age group had the highest positivity rate in this mode.

Detailed information about the number of tests and the number of positive tests can be found in the tables in the Appendix.

### Rates of Positive CTS Tests per 100 Tests of Men in M/MS Mode by Race/Ethnicity and Age: Region 8, 1997



M/MS is a mode of exposure category; that is, these men could have reported other risk behaviors besides male with male sex. The table below shows the additional risk behaviors indicated by those men who tested and were classified in the M/MS mode of exposure category. The percentages total more than 100% because individuals could list more than one behavior. These figures show the complex interplay of risk behaviors that must be addressed by interventions which target these men. At the time of testing, these individuals reported engaging in the risk behavior at least once since 1978. They may or may not currently be engaging in the risk behavior.

- Overall, proportions of men who indicated these specific risk behaviors in 1997 were similar to those reported in 1996.
- 35% of men tested in this mode indicated having sex with a woman at least once since 1978.
- A similar proportion engaged in sex while using non-injection drugs at least once.
- Over one-quarter of individuals tested reported a previous STD diagnosis.

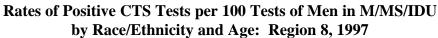
#### Additional Risk Behaviors Reported by M/MS Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997

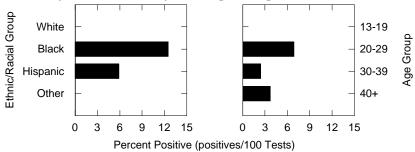
Risk Behavior	Percent Indicating Risk Since 1978
Sex with a female	35.0
Sex while using non-injection drugs	34.2
Sex for drugs or money	2.9
STD diagnosis	26.4
Sex partner an IDU	4.6
Sex partner has HIV/AIDS	14.0
Sex partner has other risk for HIV/AIDS	54.0
Victim of Sexual Assault	6.0
<b>Total Number of Tests</b>	828

## Men who Engage in Male with Male Sex and Also Inject Drugs (M/MS/IDU) Mode of Exposure

- 52% of the men testing in this mode were Hispanic, and three-quarters of the *positive* tests were found in Hispanic men.
- Of the remaining tests, close to 40% were in white men and 8% were for African Americans. African Americans had one positive test reported in this mode in 1997.
- Men aged 30 to 39 had most tests, over 42%, but the 20 to 29 year old age group had 2 of the 4 reported positive tests in this mode.
- The 20 to 29 year old age group had the highest positivity, 6.9 positives per 100 tests.

Detailed information about the number of tests and the number of positive tests can be found in the tables in the Appendix.





M/MS/IDU is a mode of exposure category; that is, these men could have reported other risk behaviors besides male with male sex and injection drug use. The table below shows the additional risk behaviors reported by these men. The percentages total to more than 100% because individuals could list more than one behavior. *These figures show the complex interplay of risk behaviors that must be addressed by interventions which target M/MS/IDU*. At the time of testing, these individuals reported engaging in the risk behavior at least once since 1978. They may or may not currently be engaging in the risk behavior.

- The risk information from CTS seems to indicate that men in the M/MS/IDU mode of exposure group have more in common, in terms of risk behavior, with people in the IDU mode than with men in the M/MS mode of exposure.
- 60% of men testing in this mode of exposure indicated engaging in sex with a woman since 1978.
- Nearly 72% reported having sex while using non-injecting drugs at least once since 1978.
- 60% of the individuals tested in this mode indicated that their sex partner was an IDU.
- Nearly 40% indicated a previous STD diagnosis.
- Over 38% of the individuals testing in this mode indicated exchanging sex for drugs or money at least

once.

#### Additional Risk Behaviors Reported by M/MS/IDU Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997

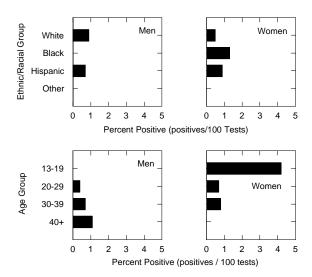
Risk Behavior	Percent Indicating Risk Since 1978
Sex with a female	59.6
Sex while using non-injection drugs	71.7
Sex for drugs or money	38.3
STD diagnosis	38.4
Sex partner an IDU	59.6
Sex partner has HIV/AIDS	18.2
Sex partner has other risk for HIV/AIDS	63.6
Victim of Sexual Assault	12.1
Total Number of Tests	99

#### Injecting Drug Use (IDU) Mode of Exposure

- Men accounted for 60% of the tests and over half of the *positive* tests in this mode of exposure.
- Within men, nearly 60% of the tests were performed for Hispanics, with 60% of the *positive* tests in this group.
- In women, whites and Hispanics accounted for 39 and 44% of the tests respectively, while African American women accounted for 15% of the tests. Hispanics accounted for 2 of the 4 positive tests reported for women in this mode, with one positive test reported, each for whites and African Americans.
- For both men and women, the majority of tests and *positive* tests were done for individuals between the ages of 30 and 39.

Detailed information about the number of tests and the number of positive tests can be found in the tables in the Appendix.

## Rates of Positive CTS Tests per 100 Tests in IDU Mode by Sex, Race/Ethnicity and Age: Region 8, 1997



As with other categories, IDU is a mode of exposure category; that is, these individuals could have reported other risk behaviors besides injecting drug use. The table below shows the additional risk behaviors they reported during counseling sessions.

- Over two-thirds of all individuals tested in this mode of exposure indicated engaging in sex at least once while using non-injecting drugs.
- Nearly one-quarter of the men and 40% of the women reported a previous STD diagnosis.
- Forty-four percent of men and nearly 3 out of 4 of women reported their sex partner was also an IDU.
- Over 27% of women reported they were a victim of sexual assault, while 1% of the men reported to be a victim of sexual assault.

#### Additional Risk Behaviors Reported by IDU Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997

Donagnt Indicating Dick Sings

Dick Dobovion

Risk Behavior		ating Risk Since 978
	Men	Women
Sex with a male	na	96.1
Sex with a female	99.2	25.7
Sex while using non-injection drugs	66.4	70.7
Sex for drugs or money	9.2	34.6
STD diagnosis	23.8	39.1
Sex partner an IDU	43.7	72.7
Sex partner M/MS	na	10.8
Sex partner has HIV/AIDS	2.8	6.1
Sex partner has other risk for HIV/AIDS	55.4	58.9
Victim of Sexual Assault	1.1	27.7
<b>Total Number of Tests</b>	751	509

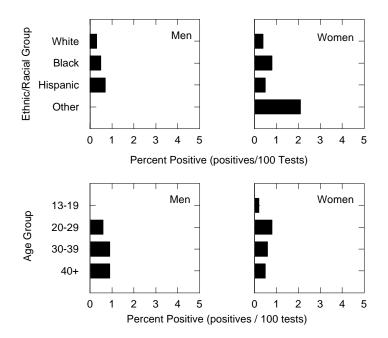
na - not applicable

#### Female with Male Sex (F/MS) Mode of Exposure

- Women accounted for over 52% of the tests performed in this mode, and over half of the *positive* tests.
- In both men and women, Hispanics accounted for 63% of the *positive* tests, while accounting for 60% of the total tests performed for individuals in this mode of exposure.
- 43% of the tests were performed for individuals between the ages of 20 and 29.
- The majority of *positive* tests in men and women were in the 20 to 29 year old age group.
- African Americans had the highest positivity rate in women, 0.8 positive tests per 100 tests, while Hispanics had the highest rate in men.

Detailed information about the number of tests and the number of positive tests can be found in the tables in the Appendix.

#### Rates of Positive CTS Tests per 100 Tests in F/MS Mode by Sex, Race/Ethnicity and Age: Region 8, 1997



The F/MS mode of exposure is a combined mode of exposure category; that is, these women could have reported one or more of a list of risky heterosexual sexual activities. The table below indicates the proportion of individuals in this category who indicated these behaviors during counseling. All respondents in this category were non-celibate heterosexuals. The percentages total more than 100% because individuals could list more than one behavior. This table shows the complex interplay of risk behaviors that must be addressed by interventions which target men and women in this mode. At the time of testing, these individuals reported engaging in the risk behavior at least once since 1978. They may or may not currently be engaging in the risk behavior.

- Nearly 47% of men reported engaging in sex while using non-injection drugs at least once, while only 35% of the women testing in this mode reported this behavior.
- Over 45% of the individuals tested in this mode reported a previous STD diagnosis, with more women reporting this than men.
- Over twice as many women as men reported their sex partner was an IDU in this mode of exposure.
- Nearly 11% of women reported to be a victim of sexual assault, while this was reported in less than 1% of men tested.

#### Additional Risk Behaviors Reported by F/MS Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997

Risk Behavior		ating Risk Since 978
	Men	Women
Sex with a male	na	96.7
Sex with a female	99.8	8.3
Sex while using non-injection drugs	47.2	35.3
Sex for drugs or money	3.2	3.8
STD diagnosis	41.9	46.0
Sex partner an IDU	6.0	12.6
Sex partner M/MS	na	4.3
Sex partner has HIV/AIDS	2.0	4.6
Sex partner has other risk for HIV/AIDS	72.3	68.8
Victim of Sexual Assault	0.8	11.0
<b>Total Number of Tests</b>	3,187	5,225

#### Appendix

#### **List of Tables**

Number and Percent of Reported HIV Tests by Demographics: Region 8, 1997. CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in M/MS Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997 CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in M/MS/IDU Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997 CTS Tests and Positives by Sex, Age and Ethnicity in IDU Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997 CTS Tests and Positives by Sex, Age and Ethnicity in F/MS Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997 CTS Tests and Positives by Sex, Age and Ethnicity in Other Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997 CTS Tests and Positives by Sex, Age and Ethnicity in NIR Mode of Exposure: Region 8, 1997



Texas Department of Health Bureau of HIV and STD Prevention Research & Program Evaluation Branch 1100 W 49th St Austin TX 78756 (512) 490-2555 http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/hivstd/

## Number and Percent of Reported HIV Tests by Demographics: PHR 8, 1997

All Tests n =11,275 All Positive Tests n =102

		Mer	1	Wom	ien	Mei	n	Women		
		Tests	%	Tests	%	Tests	%	Tests	%	
Race/Ethnicity										
	White	1,434	24.9	1,455	26.3	13	17.6	6	21.4	
	Black	915	15.9	824	14.9	8	10.8	6	21.4	
	Hispanic	3,328	57.9	3,168	57.3	53	71.6	15	53.6	
	Other	73	1.3	77	1.4	0	0.0	1	3.6	
	Undetermined	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Age										
	13-19	921	16.0	1,289	23.3	3	4.1	4	14.3	
	20-29	2,380	41.4	2,209	40.0	22	29.7	15	53.6	
	30-39	1,463	25.4	1,310	23.7	34	45.9	7	25.0	
	40+	985	17.1	712	12.9	15	20.3	2	7.1	
	Undetermined	2	0.0	4	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Total		5,751	100.0	5,524	100.0	74	100.0	28	100.0	

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in M/MS Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	19	20-2	9	30-3	9	40	+	Unkn	own	Tot	al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.										
White	21	0	85	1	91	8	80	0	0	0	277	9
Black	8	1	19	1	17	1	13	1	0	0	57	4
Hispanic	46	2	198	8	162	13	77	6	0	0	483	29
Other	1	0	6	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	11	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	76	3	308	10	272	22	172	7	0	0	828	42

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in M/MS/IDU Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	9	20-2	9	30-3	9	40	+	Unkn	own	Tot	al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.										
White	1	0	9	0	21	0	9	0	0	0	40	0
Black	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	1	0	0	8	1
Hispanic	0	0	18	2	19	1	14	0	0	0	51	3
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	29	2	42	1	27	1	0	0	99	4

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in IDU Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	19	20-2	9	30-3	9	40	+	Unkn	own	Tot	al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.										
Male												
White	16	0	61	0	101	2	56	0	0	0	234	2
Black	3	0	1	0	19	0	46	0	0	0	69	0
Hispanic	49	0	166	1	147	0	81	2	0	0	443	3
Other	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Males	68	0	231	1	268	2	184	2	0	0	751	5
Female												
White	8	0	41	0	116	1	36	0	0	0	201	1
Black	2	0	9	0	36	1	30	0	0	0	77	1
Hispanic	14	1	91	1	85	0	34	0	0	0	224	2
Other	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Females	24	1	144	1	241	2	100	0	0	0	509	4
Total	92	1	375	2	509	4	284	2	0	0	1,260	5

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in F/MS Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	19	20-29		30-3	30-39		40+		Unknown		al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.
Male												
White	78	0	244	1	139	0	123	1	0	0	584	2
Black	94	0	285	2	194	1	85	0	0	0	658	3
Hispanic	447	0	885	5	340	5	232	3	0	0	1,904	13
Other	6	0	23	0	8	0	3	0	0	0	40	0
Unspecified	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total - Males	625	0	1,438	8	681	6	443	4	0	0	3,187	18
Female												
White	158	1	296	2	149	0	113	0	0	0	716	3
Black	82	0	244	5	221	0	68	0	0	0	615	5
Hispanic	624	1	901	4	400	4	208	2	0	0	2,133	11
Other	13	0	21	0	12	1	2	0	0	0	48	1
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Females	877	2	1,462	11	782	5	391	2	0	0	3,512	20
Total	1,502	2	2,900	19	1,463	11	834	6	0	0	6,699	38

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in Other Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	19	20-2	9	30-3	9	40	+	Unkn	own	Tot	al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.										
Male												
White	28	0	83	0	55	0	46	0	0	0	212	0
Black	7	0	33	0	18	0	14	0	1	0	73	0
Hispanic	69	0	108	1	38	1	34	0	0	0	249	2
Other	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Males	104	0	227	1	111	1	94	0	1	0	537	2
Female												
White	113	1	176	1	81	0	90	0	1	0	461	2
Black	15	0	40	1	28	0	14	0	0	0	97	1
Hispanic	181	0	247	0	112	0	61	0	2	0	603	0
Other	7	0	5	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	17	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Females	316	1	468	2	223	0	168	0	3	0	1,178	3
Total	420	1	695	3	334	1	262	0	4	0	1,715	5

## CTS Tests and Positives by Age and Ethnicity in NIR Mode: PHR 8, 1997

Age Group	13-1	9	20-29		30-3	30-39		40+		Unknown		al
Race-Ethnicity	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.	Tests	Pos.
Male												
White	7	0	27	0	28	0	25	0	0	0	87	0
Black	5	0	26	0	14	0	5	0	0	0	50	0
Hispanic	32	0	87	0	44	2	34	1	1	0	198	3
Other	3	0	7	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	14	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Males	47	0	147	0	89	2	65	1	1	0	349	3
Female												
White	15	0	32	0	18	0	11	0	1	0	77	0
Black	8	0	12	0	10	0	5	0	0	0	35	0
Hispanic	48	0	89	1	35	0	36	0	0	0	208	0
Other	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Females	72	0	135	1	64	0	53	0	1	0	325	1
Total	119	0	282	1	153	2	118	1	2	0	674	4